

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 37 (Cancelled).

Claim 38 (Cancelled).

Claim 39 (Cancelled).

Claim 40 (Cancelled).

Claim 41 (Cancelled).

Claim 42 (Cancelled).

Claim 43 (Cancelled).

Claim 44 (Cancelled).

Claim 45 (Cancelled).

Claim 46 (Cancelled).

Claim 47 (Cancelled).

Claim 48 (Cancelled).

Claim 49 (Cancelled).

Claim 50 (Cancelled).

Claim 51 (Cancelled).

Claim 88 (Cancelled).

Claim 89 (Cancelled).

Claim 90 (Cancelled).

Claim 91 (Cancelled).

Claim 92 (Cancelled).

Claim 93 (Cancelled).

Claim 94 (Cancelled).

Claim 95 (Cancelled).

Claim 96 (Cancelled).

Claim 97 (Cancelled).

Claim 98 (Cancelled).

Claim 99 (Cancelled).

Claim 100 (Cancelled).

Claim 101 (Cancelled).

Claim 102 (Cancelled).

Claim 139 (Cancelled).

Claim 140 (Cancelled).

Claim 141 (Cancelled).

Claim 142 (Cancelled).

Claim 143 (Cancelled).

Claim 144 (Cancelled).

Claim 145 (Cancelled).

Claim 146 (Cancelled).

Claim 147 (Cancelled).

Claim 148 (Cancelled).

Claim 149 (Cancelled).

Claim 150 (Cancelled).

Claim 151 (Cancelled).

Claim 152 (Cancelled).

Claim 153 (Cancelled).

Claim 155 (Cancelled).

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-36, 52-87, 103-138, and 154 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's invention is drawn to a wireless communication system, apparatus, and computer program. More specifically, applicant's invention includes a plurality of communication stations as part of an ad hoc network without a relationship of a control station and controlled stations. The respective communication stations transmit beacons with information concerning a network described thereon with each other to configure said network without using an access point. In addition, the information concerning a network includes indications of beacons received from other communication stations that are part of the network. Moreover, a beacon is transmitted from a local station including neighboring communication station information pertaining to a reception time at the location station of a beacon transmitted from the neighboring communication station.

Applicant's independent claims 1, 52, 103, and 154 each recites, inter alia, a beacon transmitted from a local station includes neighboring communication station information pertaining to a reception time at said local station of a beacon transmitted from the neighboring communication station. Benveniste, Nyman, Kennedy, and Liu substantially disclose various features of the claimed invention but fail to explicitly or implicitly teach a beacon transmitted from a local station includes neighboring communication station information pertaining to a reception time at said local station of a beacon transmitted from the neighboring communication station (emphasis added). The cited references as well as a thorough search fail to disclose or suggest this feature. Furthermore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at applicant's invention, unless one was using applicant's claims and specification as a roadmap, thus using impermissible hindsight. Applicant's claims 1, 52, 103, and 154 comprise a particular combination of elements, which is neither taught nor suggest by the prior art.

Accordingly, applicant's invention is allowed for these reasons, applicant's amendments, and arguments.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Brandt whose telephone number is (571) 270-1098.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30a.m. to 5p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on (571) 272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 2617

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

/Christopher M Brandt/

Examiner, Art Unit 2617

April 10, 2010

/George Eng/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617